

Southeast Fairfax Traffic Task Force
Summary Minutes
Task Force Meeting of August 20, 2002
City Hall Room 306 7:00 PM

Attendees:

Task Force

John Buttram
Richard Holden
Shirley Holden
Ivars Arums
Mary Anne Shreve

Staff

Ton Owens, Fire Chief
John Veneziano, Director of Public Works
Alex Verzosa, Operations Director

Observer

Howard Rhile

John Buttram acted as chairman in the absence of Andy Werthmann and Tom Faulkner.

1. The first agenda item was a discussion with Chief Owens of the effects of neighborhood traffic control measures on fire and rescue response times, personnel in their vehicles and on some of their equipment. Chief Owens proposed studying a new type of speed “table” or speed “pillow” recently installed by City of Alexandria that might be better for their vehicles. He also asked for more support for additional traffic signal pre-emption equipment to help gain time on main highways that might be lost on subdivision streets with traffic calming devices. It was also suggested to try revising vehicle specifications (primarily related to the vehicle’s shocks / suspension) to account for these conditions.

2. The second agenda item was a discussion of the Phase II proposals to be discussed with the City Council in September. Nineteen residents of the area south of the Dwight Avenue/Virginia Street intersection signed a petition requesting that the raised crosswalk at that intersection and the second speed hump on Virginia Street not be installed if data did not justify their installation. The task force voted to go forward to the City Council with items 1 and 2 of the Phase II proposal (two speed humps on Dwight Avenue, and the addition of a stop sign at Dwight and orchard). The task force also voted to hold the remaining two items in abeyance until more vehicular speed and volume data could be collected on Virginia in September. It is anticipated that this data will provide statistical merit to either justify the additional measures (Phase II, items 3 and 4) or justify the task force’s exit criteria, this requiring no additional efforts on Virginia.

The next meeting of the task force was set for October 9, 2003. Staff will send invitations to those who signed the petition, as well as all of the residents on Dwight and Virginia and the adjacent streets: Alice Court, Tom Court, Forest Avenue and Forest Court.

The meeting was adjourned at about 9:15 p.m.